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EXAMINER

KHOSHNOODI, NADIA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2133

DATE MAILED: 10/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/773,535	Applicant(s) HASHEM ET AL.	
	Examiner Nadia Khoshnoodi	Art Unit 2133	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/02/01.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 February 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1-7/8-05-2002</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

“Decryption Module” is referred to as element 215 on page 2, in the first line of paragraph 20. The number for this element is inconsistent with element 250 in fig. 2, as well as the other references made to the decryption module as element 250 throughout the rest of the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-22, 27-46, and 51-66 are objected to for lacking antecedent basis.

As per claims 1, 27, 51, 56, 61, and 66:

These claims recite the limitation "the destination" in lines 6 (claims 1 and 27), 8 (claim 51), 9 (claims 56 and 61), and 10 (claim 66). There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim because a destination has not been previously introduced. To correct this, simply use an ‘a’ in place of ‘the.’

As per claim 21:

This claim recites the limitation “the transmit folder” in lines 3-4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim because a transmit folder has not been previously introduced. However, applicant did previously introduce a destination based transmit folder so it is presumed that applicant intended to refer to the destination based transmit folder as opposed to a transmit folder which lacks antecedent basis.

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As per claim 45:

This claim recites the limitation “the received folder” in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim because a received folder has not been previously introduced. However, applicant did previously introduce a destination based received folder so it is presumed that applicant intended to refer to the destination based received folder as opposed to a received folder which lacks antecedent basis.

As per claims 2-20, 22, 28-44, 46, 52-60, and 62-65:

These claims are objected to by virtue of their dependency.

Claims 25, 49-50, 60 are objected to as being inconsistent with the statutory class used for the invention in the parent claim.

As per claim 25:

This dependent claim derives from claim 23 whose statutory class is of machine type, a “system” in line 1, however claim 25 uses the statutory class of a “method” as shown in line 1. This inconsistency can be solved simply by changing “method” in line 1 of claim 25 to “system.”

As per claim 49:

This dependent claim derives from claim 47 whose statutory class is of machine type, a “system” in line 1, however claim 49 uses the statutory class of a “method” as shown in line 1. This inconsistency can be solved simply by changing “method” in line 1 of claim 49 to “system.”

As per claim 50:

This dependent claim derives from claim 47 whose statutory class is of machine type, a “system” in line 1, however claim 50 uses the statutory class of a “method” as shown in line 1. This inconsistency can be solved simply by changing “method” in line 1 of claim 50 to “system.”

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As per claim 60:

This dependent claim derives from claim 58 whose statutory class is of machine type, a “system” in line 1, however claim 60 uses the statutory class of a “method” as shown in line 1. This inconsistency can be solved simply by changing “method” in line 1 of claim 60 to “system.”

Furthermore, due to the objection above, Claim 60 is now also objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 58. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claims 74-76 are objected to because of minor informalities.

As per claim 74:

Lines 3 and 7 contain “an decryption module” where “an” should be replaced by “a”.

Appropriate correction is required.

As per claims 75-76:

These claims are objected to by virtue of their dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 26, 62, and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph for lacking antecedent basis.

As per claim 26:

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It recites the limitation “the outgoing box” in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim because an outgoing box has not been previously introduced. However, applicant did previously introduce an outgoing folder so in order to further treat this claim on its merits, it is presumed that the applicant intended to refer to this outgoing folder as opposed to an outgoing box.

As per claims 62 and 67:

It recites the limitation “the encryption process” in lines 1-2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim because an encryption process has not been previously introduced. However, a decryption process is previously introduced and since this claim derives from the claim comprising of a method for receiving a file, it is presumed that the applicant intended to refer to the decryption process previously introduced. Consequently, this would change “encryption key” in line 2 to “decryption key.”

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

I. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

II. Claims 1-2, 13-14, 16-17, 23-24, 26-29, 34, and 47-49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being fully anticipated by Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958.

As per claims 1 and 23:

Leveridge et al. teach a method for transmitting data comprising retrieving a file from a destination based transmit folder (page 22, lines 18-21), encrypting the file with an encryption process associated with the destination based transmit folder (page 22, lines 4-17), and transmitting the file to an outgoing folder for transmission to a destination (page 24, lines 14-17 and fig. 9, element 124).

As per claim 2 and 24:

Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising retrieving the encryption process associated with the destination based transmit folder from an encryption database on page 21, line 4 to page 22, line 17 depicted as element 126 in fig. 9. Although the term “encryption database” is not used, it accomplishes the same goal thus is identical.

As per claims 13 and 26:

Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising retrieving the file from the outgoing box (page 20, lines 11-13), transmitting the file to the destination (page 24, lines 17-22), and verifying receipt of the file at the destination (page 20, lines 13-16).

As per claim 14:

Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising receiving the file in the destination based transmit folder wherein a user selects a file destination (page 21, lines 4-26) and places the file in the destination based transmit folder corresponding to the file destination (page 22, lines 26-28).

As per claim 16:

Leveridge et al. teach a method further comprising transmitting the encrypted file (page 23, line 27 – page 24, line 16).

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As per claim 17:

Leveridge et al. teach a method further comprising transmitting the encrypted file over an insecure channel (page 2, line 27 - page 3, line 6).

As per claims 27 and 47:

Leveridge et al. teach a method for receiving data comprising retrieving the file from a destination based received folder (page 22, lines 22-28), decrypting the file with a decryption process associated with the destination based received folder (page 22, lines 4-17), and transmitting the file to an outgoing folder for access at a destination (page 22, lines 26-28).

As per claims 28 and 48:

Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising retrieving the decryption process associated with the destination based received folder from a decryption database on page 21, line 4 to page 22, line 17 depicted as element 126 in fig. 9. Although the term “decryption database” is not used, it accomplishes the same goal thus is identical.

As per claims 29 and 49:

Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising verifying that the file has been decrypted (page 20, lines 16-19 and page 24, lines 10-13).

As per claim 34:

Leveridge et al. teach the method wherein transmitting the file to the outgoing folder comprises transmitting the verified file to the outgoing folder (page 24, line 10-16).

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III. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

IV. Claims 3, 5, 8, 20-22, 25, 40-42, 44-46, 50-52, 54-57, 61-62, 65-67, 70, 72-73, and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958 as applied to claims 1 (for claims 3, 13, and 20-22), 3 (for claim 8), 23 (for claims 25 and 26), 27 (for claims 40-42 and 44-46), 47 (for claim 50), 51 (for claims 54-55), 61 (for claim 65), 66 (for claim 70), 71 (for claims 72-73), and 74 (for claim 75), and further in view of Ote et al. United States Patent No. 6,023,506.

As per claims 3 and 25:

Leveridge et al. teach a method of transmitting data. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising verifying that the file has been encrypted. However, Ote et al. teach the method further comprising verifying that the file has been encrypted. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention

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was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to verify that the file was indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. by fig. 8, element 6007.

As per claim 5:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method of transmitting data as applied to claim 1. Ote et al. substantially teach the method of verifying that the file has been encrypted as applied to claim 3. Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. also substantially teach the use of directories for various purposes as seen on page 22, lines 18-28 in an instance of Leveridge et al. and col. 4, lines 41-46 in an instance of Ote et al. Not explicitly disclosed by either Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is the method further comprising moving the file to an error directory if the file fails the verification process. However, the mere definition of "directory" discloses why a directory is used. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step to move files failing verification to a directory. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the definition as found at the following online site,

http://www.geek.com/glossary/glossary_search.cgi?d

and also available by typing the keyword in onelook.com and choosing the link TECHNICAL under the computing dictionary section. The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Directory - The name for a logical container for files. Directories were devised to organize files. Without directories, all the files on your hard drive would be in one big listing. When you request a list of files from a computer, you generally only see the files within one directory. Directories can contain files and/or other directories. Nowadays,

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most operating systems are calling directories "folders," but we know what they really are.

As per claim 8:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method of transmitting data as applied to claim 1. Ote et al. substantially teach the method of verifying that the file has been encrypted as applied to claim 3. Not explicitly disclosed is the method wherein transmitting the file to the outgoing folder comprises transmitting the verified file to the outgoing folder. However, Leveridge et al. disclose this method when dealing with decryption. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step to transmit the verified file to the outgoing folder. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Leveridge et al. on page 24, line 10-16.

As per claims 20 and 44:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method for transmitting data. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising performing a scan for encryption key software to find the encryption process. However, Ote et al. teach the method for using an encryption/decryption software for the encryption/decryption process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to store the encryption/decryption software in the database from which the encryption/decryption process is chosen. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. column 14, line 27 – col. 15, line 9.

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As per claim 21:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data comprising transmitting a file from the destination based transmit folder to the outgoing folder to reconcile a file being transferred from the destination based transmit folder to the outgoing folder as applied to claim 1. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is transmitting a list of files. However, Ote et al. teach the method further comprising transmitting a list of files. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to allow transmission of a list of files as opposed to a single file. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 7, lines 15-21.

As per claim 22:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method for transmitting data. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising compressing the data. However, Ote et al. teach a method of compressing data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a method of compressing data before the encryption takes place. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 7, lines 15-21.

As per claims 40 and 50:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for receiving data as applied to claims 27 and 47 comprising receiving the file in a file received outbox (fig. 9, element 124). Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is transmitting data comprising receiving the file in a file received inbox and placing the file in the destination based received folder. However, Ote et al. teach the method further comprising receiving the file in a file received inbox and placing the file in the destination based received folder. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to receive the file in the recipient's inbox then place it in the destination based received folder, which as previously stated is associated with the decryption process. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 12, line 60 – col. 13, line 19.

As per claim 41:

Leveridge et al. teach a method as applied to claim 40 further comprising receiving the file over an insecure channel (page 2, line 27 - page 3, line 6). Although it doesn't say "receiving," transferring from one client to another implies that the second client is receiving.

As per claim 42:

Leveridge et al. teach the method as applied to claim 41 wherein placing the file in the appropriate destination based received folder comprises determining destination of the file on page 22, lines 22-25.

As per claim 45:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data comprising transmitting a file from the destination based received folder to the outgoing folder to reconcile a file being transferred from the destination based received folder to the outgoing folder as applied to claim 1. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is transmitting a list of files. However, Ote et al. teach the method further comprising transmitting a list of files. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to allow transmission of a list of files as opposed to a single file. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 7, lines 15-21.

As per claim 46:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method for transmitting data. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising decompressing the data. However, Ote et al. teach a method of decompressing data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a method of decompressing data. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 7, lines 15-21.

As per claims 51 and 56:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data comprising retrieving a file from a destination based transmit folder (page 22, lines 18-21), encrypting the file with an

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encryption process associated with the destination based transmit folder (page 22, lines 4-17), encrypting the data with the encryption process (depicted in fig. 14; page 22, lines 9-17) and transmitting the file to an outgoing folder for transmission to a destination (page 24, lines 14-17 and fig. 9, element 124).

Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method automatically retrieving data from a destination based transmit folder or automatically retrieving an encryption process associated with the destination based transmit folder.

However, Leveridge et al. teach a method for each recipient maintaining an updated directory. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to use this automatic update feature to allow for an automatic method of data retrieval from a destination based transmit folder. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Leveridge et al. on page 24, lines 17-22.

As for automatically retrieving an encryption process, Ote et. al teach that. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to use this automatic encryption process associated with the destination based transmit folder as previously discussed. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 1, line 33 – col.2, line 6.

As per claims 52 and 57:

Leveridge et al. teach the method for transmitting data, wherein the encryption process comprises an encryption key (page 19, lines 19-21).

As per claims 54 and 55:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data as applied to claim 51. Furthermore, Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising performing error processing on the data if the data fails verification or encryption on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

As per claims 61 and 66:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for receiving data comprising automatically placing received data in a destination based received folder (page 22, lines 22-25), automatically retrieving the file from a destination based received folder (page 22, lines 22-28 and page 24, 17-22), decrypting the file with a decryption process associated with the destination based received folder (page 22, lines 4-17), decrypting the data with the decryption process (page 22, lines 11-17), and transmitting the file to an outgoing folder for access at a destination (page 22, lines 26-28).

Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method automatically retrieving a decryption process associated with the destination based received folder. However, Ote et al. teach a method for automatically retrieving a decryption process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to use this automatic decryption process associated with the destination based received folder as previously discussed. This modification would have been obvious because a

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person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 1, line 33 – col.2, line 6.

As per claims 62 and 67:

Leveridge et al. teach the method for transmitting data, wherein the decryption process comprises a decryption key (page 19, lines 19-21).

As per claim 65:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for receiving data as applied to claim 61. Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising performing error processing on the data if the data fails decryption on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19 and page 24, lines 10-13. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

As per claim 70:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for receiving data as applied to claim 66. Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising performing error processing on the data if the data fails decryption on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19 and page 24, lines 10-13. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

As per claim 72:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method for transmitting data as applied to claim 71 below. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising compressing the data.

However, Ote et al. teach a method of compressing data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a method of compressing data before the encryption takes

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place. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 7, lines 15-21.

Furthermore, a module is merely a part of a program that performs a particular task. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a compression module to compress the data to be transmitted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the following definition of module found online at:

<http://www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary>

The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Module- A self-contained functional unit which is used with a larger system. A software module is a part of a program that performs a particular task. A hardware module can be a packaged unit that attaches to a system.

As per claim 73:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method from claim 71 below. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. et al. is the encryption module comprising a verification module verifying encryption of the data.

However, Ote et al. substantially teach the method for verifying encryption of the data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to verify that the file was indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary

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skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. by fig. 8, element 6007.

Furthermore, a module is merely a part of a program that performs a particular task. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a verification module to verify that the encryption was successful. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the following definition of module found online at:

<http://www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary>

The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Module- A self-contained functional unit which is used with a larger system. A software module is a part of a program that performs a particular task. A hardware module can be a packaged unit that attaches to a system.

As per claim 75:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method for transmitting data as applied to claim 74 below. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising decompressing the received data.

However, Ote et al. teach a method of decompressing data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a method of decompressing data. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Ote et al. in col. 7, lines 15-21.

Furthermore, a module is merely a part of a program that performs a particular task. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a decompression module to compress the data to be transmitted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the following definition of module found online at:

<http://www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary>

The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Module- A self-contained functional unit which is used with a larger system. A software module is a part of a program that performs a particular task. A hardware module can be a packaged unit that attaches to a system.

V. Claims 4, 53, 58-60, 63-64, and 68-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958 and Ote et al. United States Patent No. 6,023,506 as applied to claims 3, 51, and 56 above, and further in view of Brundrett et al. United States Patent No. 6,249,866.

As per claim 4:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data as applied to claim 1. Ote et al. substantially teach the method of verifying that the file has been encrypted as applied to claim 3. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is the method of verifying that the file has been encrypted comprises transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted.

However, Brundrett et al. teach the method of transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted to verify the encryption.

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Although Brundrett et al. do not state that their method consists of transferring the file, they do disclose the method of creating a new temporary file and copying the attributes from the originals to the temporary ones.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step into the verification of encryption to transfer the file to a temporary folder and check that they were indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Brundrett et al. in col. 18, lines 50-56. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to check the temporary files for verifying the encryption because it is suggested that Brundrett et al. verify the success in col. 18, lines 6-12 and in fig. 22, element 2212.

As per claim 53:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data as applied to claim 51. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is the method of verifying that the file has been encrypted comprises transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted.

However, Brundrett et al. teach the method of transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted to verify the encryption. Although Brundrett et al. do not state that their method consists of transferring the file, they do disclose the method of creating a new temporary file and copying the attributes from the originals to the temporary ones.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step into the verification of encryption to transfer the file to a temporary folder and check that they were indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Brundrett et al. in col. 18, lines 50-56. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to check the temporary files for verifying the encryption because it is suggested that Brundrett et al. verify the success in col. 18, lines 6-12 and in fig. 22, element 2212.

As per claim 58:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data as applied to claim 56. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is the method of verifying that the file has been encrypted comprises transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted.

However, Brundrett et al. teach the method of transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted to verify the encryption. Although Brundrett et al. do not state that their method consists of transferring the file, they do disclose the method of creating a new temporary file and copying the attributes from the originals to the temporary ones.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step into the verification of encryption to transfer the file to a temporary folder and check that they were indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at

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the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Brundrett et al. in col. 18, lines 50-56. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to check the temporary files for verifying the encryption because it is suggested that Brundrett et al. verify the success in col. 18, lines 6-12 and in fig. 22, element 2212.

As per claims 59-60:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data as applied to claim 56. Brundrett et al. substantially teach the method of transferring the data to a temporary folder for verification as applied to claim 58. Furthermore, Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising performing error processing on the data if the data fails verification on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

As per claim 63:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach the method of receiving data as applied to claim 61. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is the method of verifying that the file has been decrypted comprises transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been decrypted.

However, Brundrett et al. teach the method of transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted to verify the encryption. Although Brundrett et al. do not state that their method consists of transferring the file, they do disclose the method of creating a new temporary file and copying the attributes from the originals to the temporary ones.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step into the verification of encryption to transfer the file to a temporary folder and check that they were indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Brundrett et al. in col. 18, lines 50-56. Also, it would have been obvious to check the temporary files for verifying the encryption because it is suggested that Brundrett et al. verify the success in col. 18, lines 6-12 and in fig. 22, element 2212. Furthermore, Brundrett et al. disclosed a method for encryption thus it is obvious for use in decryption as well since decryption is the “converse operation” of encryption as stated in col. 18, lines 17-19.

As per claim 64:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for receiving data as applied to claim 61. Brundrett et al. substantially teach the method of transferring the data to a temporary folder to verify decryption as applied to claim 63. Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising performing error processing on the data if the data fails verification on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19 and page 24, lines 10-13. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

As per claim 68:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach the method of receiving data as applied to claim 66. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is the method of verifying that the file has been decrypted comprises transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been decrypted.

However, Brundrett et al. teach the method of transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted to verify the encryption. Although Brundrett et al. do not state that their method consists of transferring the file, they do disclose the method of creating a new temporary file and copying the attributes from the originals to the temporary ones.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step into the verification of encryption to transfer the file to a temporary folder and check that they were indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Brundrett et al. in col. 18, lines 50-56. Also, it would have been obvious to check the temporary files for verifying the encryption because it is suggested that Brundrett et al. verify the success in col. 18, lines 6-12 and in fig. 22, element 2212. Furthermore, Brundrett et al. disclosed a method for encryption thus it is obvious for use in decryption as well since decryption is the “converse operation” of encryption as stated in col. 18, lines 17-19.

As per claim 69:

Leveridge et al. and Ote et al. substantially teach a method for receiving data as applied to claim 66. Brundrett et al. substantially teach the method of transferring the data to a temporary folder to verify decryption as applied to claim 68. Leveridge et al. teach the method further comprising performing error processing on the data if the data fails verification on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19 and page 24, lines 10-13. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

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VI. Claims 6, 7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958 and Ote et al. United States Patent No. 6,023,506 as applied to claim 3 (for 6 and 9) above and 6 (for claim 7) below and further in view of Lockhart et al. United States Patent No. 5,841,873.

As per claim 6:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data. Ote et al. substantially teach a method of verifying that the encryption has been verified. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is that method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the verification process. However, Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the verification process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step to record information about the file in an error log if the file fails the verification process. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Lockhart et al. in col. 6, lines 9-32 and col. 2, lines 58-61.

As per claim 7:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data. Ote et al. substantially teach the method of verifying that the encryption has been verified as applied to claim 3 above. Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the verification process as applied to claim 6 above. Not explicitly

disclosed by Leveridge et al., Ote et al., or Lockhart et al. is the method further comprising transmitting a destination based portion of the error log to the destination.

However, Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising generating an error report message which is recorded in an error log and transmitted. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step to transmit a portion of the error log to the destination once the error log was recorded after the failed verification process.

This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Lockhart et al. in col. 6, lines 9-32 and col. 2, lines 58-61. Furthermore, although Lockhart et al. do not explicitly state that the generated error message is being transmitted to the destination, it is transmitted to a server, thus the modification of sending the destination based portion of the error log to element SFTS, in fig. 9 of Leveridge et al. for the server to put in the recipient outbox for retrieval at the destination would have also been obvious.

As per claim 9:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data. Ote et al. substantially teach a method of verifying that the encryption has been verified. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Ote et al. is that method further comprising transmitting notification of verification failure of the file to the destination if the file fails verification.

However, Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising transmitting notification of verification failure if the file fails the verification process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed

in Ote et al. to incorporate a step to send a notification of verification failure if the file fails the verification process.

This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Lockhart et al. in col. 6, lines 9-32 and col. 2, lines 58-61. Furthermore, the modification of sending the notification of the failed verification process to the destination would have been obvious because of how the method for transmitting data is disclosed in Leveridge et al. and the verification process is disclosed in Ote et al. Also, the modification would only require adding a single step for notification if the file failed verification, i.e. when the result to element 6007 of fig. 8 in Ote et al. is no, there could be a step directly following to send notification.

VII. Claims 10-11, 19, 31, 36-37, 71, 74, and 76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958 as applied to claims 1 (for 10-11, and 19) and 27 (for claims 31 and 36-37) above.

As per claim 10:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method further comprising transmitting notification to the destination. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising transmitting notification of encryption failure of the file to the destination if the file fails encryption. However, Leveridge et al. teach the method of requesting retransmission where errors have been found regarding the encryption key. Furthermore, Leveridge et al. constantly reiterate sending and acknowledgement or error depending on the outcome of different processes, for example the pre-processor. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to

transmit a notification of encryption failure of the file to the destination if the file fails encryption.

This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Leveridge et al. on page 10 lines, 17-19 and page 19, lines 26-28. Furthermore, page 24 lines 1-13 shows that it was possible to apply the method of notification used for the key to the process of encrypting the file because they both contain the encryption checksum.

As per claim 11:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method of transmitting data as applied to claim 1. Leveridge et al. also substantially teach the use of directories for various purposes as seen on page 22, lines 18-28 in one instance. Not explicitly disclosed by either Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising moving the file to an error directory if the file fails the encryption process. However, the mere definition of “directory” discloses why a directory is used. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to move files failing encryption to a directory. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the definition as found at the following online site,

http://www.geek.com/glossary/glossary_search.cgi?d

and also available by typing the keyword in onelook.com and choosing the link TECHNICAL under the computing dictionary section. The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Directory - The name for a logical container for files. Directories were devised to organize files. Without directories, all the files on your hard drive would be in one big

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listing. When you request a list of files from a computer, you generally only see the files within one directory. Directories can contain files and/or other directories. Nowadays, most operating systems are calling directories "folders," but we know what they really are.

As per claim 19:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method of transmitting data as applied to claim 1 above. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising generating a file notifying a recipient at the destination that the file is being transmitted. However, Leveridge et al. teach the method of transmitting an error message or acknowledgment to the sender depending on the status of the transmission. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to also send a notification to the destination so that the recipient is aware that the file has been transmitted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Leveridge et al. on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 3.

As per claim 31:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method of transmitting data as applied to claim 27 and the method of verifying that the file has been decrypted as applied to claim 29. Leveridge et al. also substantially teach the use of directories for various purposes as seen on page 22, lines 18-28 in one instance. Not explicitly disclosed by either Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising moving the file to an error directory if the file fails the verification process. However, the mere definition of "directory" discloses why a directory is used. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to move files failing verification to a

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directory. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the definition as found at the following online site,

http://www.geek.com/glossary/glossary_search.cgi?d

and also available by typing the keyword in onelook.com and choosing the link TECHNICAL under the computing dictionary section. The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Directory - The name for a logical container for files. Directories were devised to organize files. Without directories, all the files on your hard drive would be in one big listing. When you request a list of files from a computer, you generally only see the files within one directory. Directories can contain files and/or other directories. Nowadays, most operating systems are calling directories "folders," but we know what they really are.

As per claim 36:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method further comprising transmitting notification to the destination. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising transmitting notification of decryption failure of the file to the destination if the file fails decryption. However, Leveridge et al. teach the method of transmitting notification of a successful decryption to the destination. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to also transmit a notification of decryption failure of the file to the destination if the file fails decryption. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Leveridge et al. page 20, lines 8-13.

As per claim 37:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method of transmitting data as applied to claim 27. Leveridge et al. also substantially teach the use of directories for various purposes as seen on page 22, lines 18-28 in one instance. Not explicitly disclosed by either Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising moving the file to an error directory if the file fails the decryption process. However, the mere definition of "directory" discloses why a directory is used. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to move files failing decryption to a directory. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the definition as found at the following online site,

http://www.geek.com/glossary/glossary_search.cgi?d

and also available by typing the keyword in onelook.com and choosing the link TECHNICAL under the computing dictionary section. The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Directory - The name for a logical container for files. Directories were devised to organize files. Without directories, all the files on your hard drive would be in one big listing. When you request a list of files from a computer, you generally only see the files within one directory. Directories can contain files and/or other directories. Nowadays, most operating systems are calling directories "folders," but we know what they really are.

As per claim 71:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data comprising receiving data in a destination based transmit folder (page 22, lines 18-21) and automatically encrypting the data (page 19, lines 15-21) with an encryption method associated with the destination based transmit folder (page 22, lines 4-17). Additionally, Leveridge et al. also teach the method for an encryption database storing encryption methods, each encryption method associated with at least

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one destination based transmit folder (page 21, line 4 to page 22, line 17 depicted as element 126 in fig. 9). Although the term “encryption database” is not used, it accomplishes the same goal thus is identical. Furthermore, Leveridge et al. also teach a method for error processing on data failing encryption on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. et al. is an encryption module and an error module. However, a module is merely a part of a program that performs a particular task. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate an encryption module to receive data in a destination based transmit folder to encrypt and an error module to perform the error processing on data failing encryption. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the following definition of module found online at:

<http://www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary>

The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Module- A self-contained functional unit which is used with a larger system. A software module is a part of a program that performs a particular task. A hardware module can be a packaged unit that attaches to a system.

As per claim 74:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for receiving data comprising receiving data in a destination based received folder (page 22, lines 22-28) and automatically decrypting the data (page 19, lines 15-21) with a decryption method associated with the destination based received folder (page 22, lines 4-17). Additionally, Leveridge et al. also teach the method for an

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decryption database storing encryption methods, each decryption method associated with at least one destination based received folder (page 21, line 4 to page 22, line 17 depicted as element 126 in fig. 9). Although the term “decryption database” is not used, it accomplishes the same goal thus is identical. Furthermore, Leveridge et al. also teach a method for error processing on data failing decryption on page 19, line 26 – page 20, line 19 and page 24, lines 10-13. Here, error processing is fulfilled by retransmission of the data.

Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. et al. is a decryption module and an error module. However, a module is merely a part of a program that performs a particular task. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a decryption module to receive data in a destination based transmit folder to decrypt and an error module to perform the error processing on data failing decryption. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the following definition of module found online at:

<http://www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary>

The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Module- A self-contained functional unit which is used with a larger system. A software module is a part of a program that performs a particular task. A hardware module can be a packaged unit that attaches to a system.

As per claim 76:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method, as applied to claim 74 above, for verifying that the data has been decrypted (page 20, lines 16-19 and page 24, lines 10-13). Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. et al. is a verification module performing the verification

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within a decryption module. However, a module is merely a part of a program that performs a particular task. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a verification module to verify that the decryption was successful. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by the following definition of module found online at:

<http://www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary>

The definition, as viewed online, is pasted below:

Module- A self-contained functional unit which is used with a larger system. A software module is a part of a program that performs a particular task. A hardware module can be a packaged unit that attaches to a system.

VIII. Claims 15 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958 as applied to claims 1 and 27 above and further in view of Berman et al. United States Patent No. 5,995,939.

As per claim 15:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method of transmitting data as applied to claim 1. Leveridge et al. also substantially teach the method for each recipient keeping an updated destination based transmit folder for retrieving files on page 24, lines 17-22. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method for automatically checking the destination based transmit folder for new files after a predetermined time interval. However, Berman et al. teach a method for automatically checking for new files after a predetermined time interval. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify

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the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to retrieve new files found in the updated directory after a predetermined time interval. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Berman et al. in col. 6, line 28 – col. 7, line 44.

As per claim 39:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method of receiving data as applied to claim 27. Leveridge et al. also substantially teach the method for each recipient keeping an updated destination based received folder for retrieving files on page 24, lines 17-22. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method for automatically checking the destination based received folder for new files after a predetermined time interval. However, Berman et al. teach a method for automatically checking for new files after a predetermined time interval. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to retrieve new files found in the updated directory after a predetermined time interval. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Berman et al. in col. 6, line 28 – col. 7, line 44.

IX. Claims 18, 30, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958 as applied to claims 1, 29, and 27 above and further in view of Brundrett et al. United States Patent No. 6,249,866.

As per claim 18:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method of transmitting data. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is that method wherein the encryption process comprises a public

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key for encoding the file. However, Brundrett et al. teach the method wherein the encryption process comprises a public key for encoding the file. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to encrypt the file with a public key. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Brundrett et al. in col. 9, lines 64-66.

As per claim 30:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach the method of verifying that the file has been decrypted. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method of verifying that the file has been decrypted comprises transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been decrypted.

However, Brundrett et al. teach the method of transferring the file to a temporary folder and checking if all files in the temporary folder have been encrypted to verify the encryption. Although Brundrett et al. do not state that their method consists of transferring the file, they do disclose the method of creating a new temporary file and copying the attributes from the originals to the temporary ones.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Ote et al. to incorporate a step into the verification of encryption to transfer the file to a temporary folder and check that they were indeed encrypted. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by

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Brundrett et al. in col. 18, lines 50-56. Also, it would have been obvious to check the temporary files for verifying the encryption because it is suggested that Brundrett et al. verify the success in col. 18, lines 6-12 and in fig. 22, element 2212. Furthermore, Brundrett et al. disclosed a method for encryption thus it is obvious for use in decryption as well since decryption is the “converse operation” of encryption as stated in col. 18, lines 17-19.

As per claim 43:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method of transmitting data. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is that method wherein the decryption process comprises a private key for decoding the file. However, Brundrett et al. teach the method wherein the decryption process comprises a private key for decoding the file. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to decrypt the file with a private key. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Brundrett et al. in col. 9, lines 64-66.

X. Claims 12, 32-33, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leveridge et al. WO 99/00958 as applied to claims 1, 29, and 27 above and further in view of Lockhart et al. United States Patent No. 5,841,873.

As per claim 12:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is the method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the encryption process. However, Lockhart et al. teach the

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method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the encryption process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to record information about the file in an error log if the file fails the encryption process. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Lockhart et al. in col. 6, lines 9-32 and col. 2, lines 58-61.

As per claim 32:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for verifying that the file has been decrypted. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is that method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the verification process. However, Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the verification process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to record information about the file in an error log if the file fails the verification process. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Lockhart et al. in col. 6, lines 9-32 and col. 2, lines 58-61.

As per claim 33:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for transmitting data and verifying that the decryption has been verified as applied to claim 29 above. Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the

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verification process as applied to claim 32 above. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. or Lockhart et al. is the method further comprising transmitting a destination based portion of the error log to the destination.

However, Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising generating an error report message which is recorded in an error log and transmitted. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to transmit a portion of the error log to the destination once the error log was recorded after the failed verification process.

This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Lockhart et al. in col. 6, lines 9-32 and col. 2, lines 58-61. Furthermore, although Lockhart et al. do not explicitly state that the generated error message is being transmitted to the destination, it is transmitted to a server, thus the modification of sending the destination based portion of the error log to element SFTS, in fig. 9 of Leveridge et al. for the server to put in the recipient outbox for retrieval at the destination would have also been obvious.

As per claim 38:

Leveridge et al. substantially teach a method for verifying that the file has been decrypted. Not explicitly disclosed by Leveridge et al. is that method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the decryption process. However, Lockhart et al. teach the method further comprising recording information about the file in an error log if the file fails the decryption process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed in

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Leveridge et al. to incorporate a step to record information about the file in an error log if the file fails the decryption process. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, would have been motivated to do so since it is suggested by Lockhart et al. in col. 6, lines 9-32 and col. 2, lines 58-61.

Conclusion

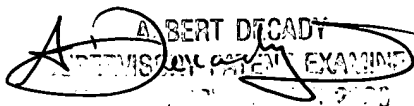
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nadia Khoshnoodi whose telephone number is (703)305-8701. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (703)305-9595. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Nadia Khoshnoodi
Examiner
Art Unit 2133

NK


ALBERT DECADY
SUPERVISOR
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